

House Resolution

No. 56

Introduced by Assembly Members Santiago and Ting

June 28, 2016

House Resolution No. 56—Relative to homelessness.

1 WHEREAS, Homelessness is one of the most pervasive issues
2 facing California today; and

3 WHEREAS, According to the United States Department of
4 Housing and Urban Development, there were 115,738 homeless
5 people in California in 2015, by far the most of any state in the
6 nation; and

7 WHEREAS, Rising rents, rapidly declining numbers of
8 low-income housing units, and slow wage growth have all
9 contributed to homelessness; and

10 WHEREAS, Of the nation's top ten most expensive rental
11 markets, four are located in California; and

12 WHEREAS, The median rent for a one-bedroom apartment in
13 San Francisco is \$3,590, in San Jose is \$2,290, in Oakland is
14 \$2,270, and in Los Angeles is \$1,970; and

15 WHEREAS, San Francisco's Point-in-Time Homeless Count
16 in 2015 identified 7,539 homeless adults and youths, a 7 percent
17 increase since 2005; and

18 WHEREAS, A report by the San Francisco Budget and
19 Legislative Analyst's Office found that while the initial costs
20 associated with housing homeless residents increased when those
21 individuals entered supportive housing, the city's costs were
22 reduced drastically as those formerly homeless individuals were
23 stabilized; and

1 WHEREAS, The County of Los Angeles now has an estimated
2 46,874 homeless people on any given night, up nearly 6 percent
3 from last year, according to the Los Angeles Homeless Services
4 Authority; and

5 WHEREAS, On any given night in Sacramento, more than 2,500
6 individuals are without a home, and an estimated 5,200 more will
7 become homeless over the course of the next year; and

8 WHEREAS, San Diego's homeless population rose to 8,742 in
9 2015 from 8,506 in 2014, a 2.8% increase that makes the homeless
10 population in San Diego one of the top four in the nation, and
11 1,100 of that homeless population are veterans; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2015, the homeless population in Fresno
13 increased for the first time in almost 8 years; and

14 WHEREAS, Homelessness has risen to historic levels
15 throughout the state, and now is the time for state action; and

16 WHEREAS, Being homeless is dangerous, especially for youth,
17 in San Francisco, experience a mortality rate more than 10 times
18 higher than that of the state's general youth population; and

19 WHEREAS, In March of 2016, the San Francisco Board of
20 Supervisors requested Governor Brown to issue a statewide
21 declaration of emergency to help coordinate the response and
22 resources for homeless individuals and families; and

23 WHEREAS, The Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
24 unanimously approved an unprecedented plan to address the crisis
25 in the county by allocating \$100 million in one-time funding for
26 homeless services; and

27 WHEREAS, The City of Los Angeles has already declared a
28 state of emergency as it relates to the lack of shelter for homeless
29 in the city; now, therefore, be it

30 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California*, That the
31 Assembly requests that Governor Brown declare a state of
32 emergency on homelessness; and be it further

33 *Resolved*, That the Assembly recognizes that the challenge of
34 confronting homelessness requires the active engagement and
35 leadership of all arms of government; and be it further

36 *Resolved*, That the Legislature must prioritize taking action on
37 homelessness prior to the adjournment of the 2015–16 Regular
38 Session of the Legislature; and be it further

- 1 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
- 2 of this resolution to the Governor for the appropriate distribution.

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